

Remarks

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

Discussion of the Amendments to the Claims

The claims have been amended to delete non-elected subject matter and to render them commensurate in scope with the elected invention. In particular, claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 have been amended herein while claims 3-4, 9-14, and 16-19 have been cancelled. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the non-elected subject matter including the subject matter of cancelled claims 8-12 and 17-19 (which were withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner as drawn to non-elected subject matter) in a divisional application. No new matter has been added by way of the amendments to the claims.

Response to Claims Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-7 and 13-17 on the basis of certain informalities. In particular, the Examiner has alleged that "[t]he claims have not been amended commensurate in scope with the elected invention of Lysine as AA2, deletion of AA3, etc." (Office Action, page 2). Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

At the outset, Applicants appreciate the indication that the claims will likely receive favorable consideration if amended to address the Examiner's objections. Claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 have been amended herein to address the Examiner's objections. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claims 1, 2, 5, and 6 obviate the basis for the objections with regard to those claims.

Claim 7 depends from claim 1. Accordingly it is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claim 1 obviate the basis for the objection with regard to claim 7.

Claim 15 depends from claim 2. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the

Application No. 10/530,165
Amendment and Response dated July 2, 2008
Reply to Office Action mailed on April 2, 2008
Docket No. 753-48 PCT/US
Page 6

amendments to claim 2 obviate the basis for the objection with regard to claim 15.

Claims 3-4, 13-14, and 16-17 have been cancelled herein. The cancellation of claims 3-4, 13-14, and 16-17 obviates the basis for the objections with regard to those claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections to the claims.

Concluding Remarks

Applicants have responded in full to the present Office Action. Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

No fees are deemed to be due with regard to this communication. However, if the Commissioner deems that any fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any such fees associated with this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2461. Such authorization includes authorization to charge fees for extensions of time, if any, under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 and also should be treated as a constructive petition for an extension of time in this reply or any future reply pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning this Response to Office Communication, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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